

Tewksbury Historical Commission Meeting and Public Hearing Minutes

Monday , December 14, 2015, 6:30 PM

Tewksbury Town Hall

Members present: Chairman William Wyatt, Vice Chairman Thomas Churchill, Town Historian Warren Carey, M. Eileen McDonagh, Robert Hunter, Michael Hurton, Patricia Stratis.

Also present: Group 1 Automotive Inc. Director of Public affairs, Marvin Marcell

Approximately 12 members of the public were present for the public hearing segment of the meeting.

Meeting called to order at: 6:32pm, EST.

The Chairman advised the public that the purpose of the meeting was to discuss alternatives to the demolition of the Hardy-Pike House at 464 Main Street.

The commission asked Mr. Marcell to speak about the Group 1 position on the matter. Mr. Marcell stated that IRA Toyota of Tewksbury is 100% owned by Group 1 Automotive of Houston Texas. He stated that Group 1 has owned the Hardy-Pike House for 3-3.5 years. The purpose of purchasing the property is to expand the dealership and use the space to store cars. He said that Group 1 is willing to give the house away for free to anyone that is willing to move the house. This offer has been on the table for quite some time and no interested parties have come forward. Mr. Marcell affirmed that Toyota will not consider any alternative use of the building on the property. Discussion ensued.

Dave Marcus of the Tewksbury Historical Society spoke in favor of trying to save the property as did several other members of the public. Discussion ensued.

Jim Andella, the owner of the property at 155 East Street, Tewksbury MA proposed that the house be moved to the 155 East Street property and that he would bear the moving expense. He would do this contingent upon obtaining approval at the May 2016 town meeting to rezone the 155 East Street property from residential to commercial. Discussion ensued.

Motion made by Warren Carey, seconded by Thomas Churchill to adjourn the meeting at 7:51pm, EDT. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

Next Meeting: January 4th, 2016

Respectfully submitted,

W. J. Wyatt

Chairman

Minutes approved by commission on: January 25, 2016.